

B-3526 - B-3535

c. 1837-1880's

223 - 201 E. Cross St. (South side)/ 1115 Durst Alley (East side)

Baltimore, Md.

Private access

The south side of the 200 block of E. Cross St. is improved with a variety of house types ranging in date from the late 1830's to the 1870's and 1880's. 221-223 E. Cross St. is a pair of two story plus attic brick houses built in the early 1850's. To the west, at 219 E. Cross St. there is a two story, two bay wide gable-roofed brick house built in the 1860's; at 217 E. Cross St. there is a three story, two bay wide brick house with shed roof and bracketed cornice representing a post-Civil War remodeling of an 1855 house; at 215 E. Cross St. there is a late Victorian two story, three bay wide brick house with shed roof and Italianate bracketed cornice representing either an 1880's remodeling or replacement of the original 1850's house on the site; and at 213 E. Cross St. there is a two story, two bay wide gable-roofed brick house similar to that at 219 E. Cross St. and also built in the 1860's. Across Durst Alley to the west there is a three story, two bay wide gable-roofed brick house at 211 E. Cross St.; a pair of two story, two bay wide gable-roofed houses at 207-209 E. Cross St. built in the 1850's; a three story, two bay wide brick house with shed roof and bracketed cornice, now covered with aluminum siding, at 205 E. Cross St., which probably represents an enlargement of an 1840's or 1850's house; and finally a pair of two story, two bay wide late Federal style houses (though currently without dormer windows) built in the late 1830's by the Dempster family at 201-203 E. Cross St. Only one house of an original row of ten two story, two bay wide brick houses with shed roofs built along the east side of Durst Alley in the 1850's survives at 1115 Durst Alley. These houses were probably built by William Webb, the builder of the row of two story plus attic houses on the front portions of the lots at 1110-1124 Battery Ave.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

219 E. Cross St.

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Baltimore

— VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

Maryland 21202

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

**PRESENT USE**

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

— VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

B-3527

### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☒ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED☐ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two story brick house with gable roof was built in the 1860's and formed part of a group of gable roofed houses, both two and two and a half story, that extended along this side of Cross St.

The house is two stories in height, 12 1/2' wide, and occupies a lot 66' deep. There is a one story high, two bay deep rear addition. The house is constructed in running bond. The moderately-pitched gable roof has a two-tier brick cornice. There is a single hooded chimney located along the west side of the house at the peak of the gable roof.

The door and window openings have splayed brick lintels and wood sills. All of the window openings are filled with 1/1 double hung sash. There is a modern flush door set beneath a single light transom. The house sits on a low basement, the entrance being reached by two stone steps. A rectangular basement opening, filled with three lights, is located to the right of the steps. A flat-roofed alleyway runs back under the easternmost bay of the house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1869

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Erastmus Pickel

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house is significant as being representative of a group of extremely modest two story, gable-roofed houses built in the 1850's and 1860's in the southern section of Federal Hill to serve as inexpensive housing for the influx of newly arrived immigrant families seeking work in harbor-related activities. Most of these houses were built in rows and held as rental property (see 1028-1034 Patapsco St.) and many were located along narrow side streets. In terms of design, the houses are basically the descendants of earlier Federal-style working class housing built in the early decades of the century, but without the usual dormer story of such houses. The houses are quite small, with two rooms on each floor separated by a narrow, tightly winding staircase. The kitchen was located in a rear addition.

This house was built by Erastmus Pickel, a local carpenter who had previously lived on Riverside Ave. Pickel lived here in the 1870's and 1880's.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Baltimore City Land Records, Liber GR 434, Folio 279; Baltimore City Directory, 1870, 1872

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 12'6" x 66'

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

M.E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust / Struever Bros. & Eccles5/79

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1745 Circle Rd.

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

RuxtonMaryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

E. CROSS

B-3527

B-3527  
ST.

ST.

WILLIAM

E. WEST

DURST

BATTERY

AVE.

201	203	205	207	209	211
17	17	15	16	16	14
33	32	31	30	29	28
35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46
47	48	49	50	51	52
53	54	55	56	57	58

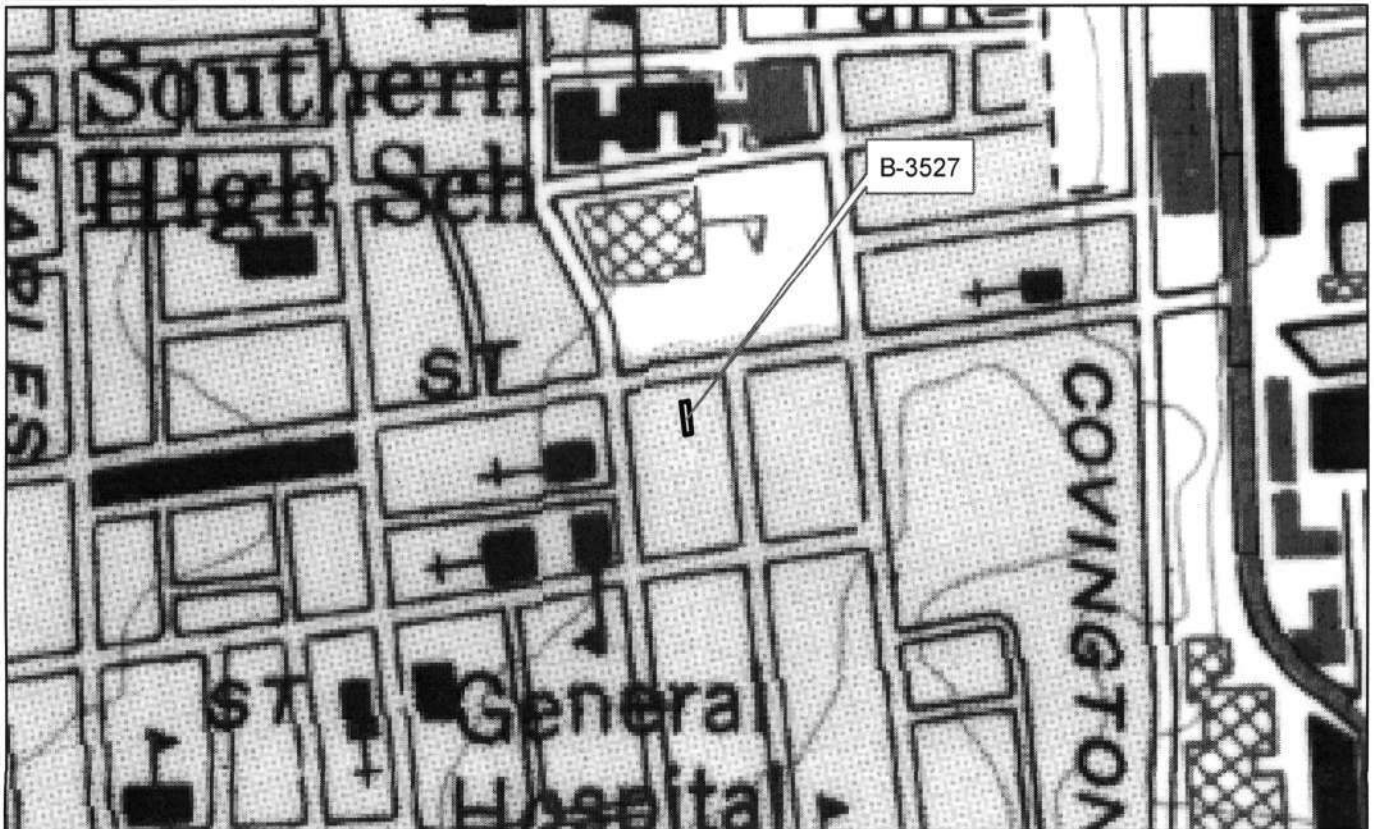
219	217	215	213	211	209
14	14	13	12	11	10
28	27	26	25	24	23
22	21	20	19	18	17
16	15	14	13	12	11
10	9	8	7	6	5
4	3	2	1	0	0

NOTICE

DEPART  
RUBEN

ST

B-3527  
219 E. Cross Street  
Block 0952 Lot 025  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.





B-3527

219 E. Cross St.

~~M.E.H.~~

5/79

North elevation